supplied should not exceed 250 watts or 1/3 of horse power. Thus, then there are provisions on the one hand to encourage separate installations for one's own house, while at the same time provision is made that such persons do not unduly compete with the licensee.

17. Part IV enables the Government to constitute Advisory Boards. If there are many electric undertakings then the Government will be in a position to have the advice of electrical experts. If they are in a position to do so they may have an Advisory Board. As at present it may be very difficult to get the requisite number of experts, the provision in the Regulation is only permissive.

18. The provisions in the Schedule are also important. The licensee is bound to complete the works within the time stipulated in the license. To ensure the due completion of the works it is open to the Government to demand security from the licensee. If the works are completed within the stipulated time the security will be released. But if the licensee fails to do so the security will be forfeited. The annual statement of accounts has to be examined and audited by an Auditor appointed by Government before the same is submitted to Government. The licensee is bound to supply energy anywhere within the area if an undertaking is given to him by those interested in such supply that he will get a reasonable return and that the supply of energy will be taken for at least two years. The licensee is not allowed to charge for the energy supplied more than what is fixed in the license. It is however open to Government to revise the rates at the end of seven years. There may be subsequent revisions of the rates at the end of 5 years.

19. The other provisions do not call for any specific mention.

20. I have now explained the main provisions of the Bill. I have no doubt that the Council will be convinced that the provisions are perfectly harmless and I hope the measure will be non-contentious. I therefore beg to move that the principle of the Bill be affirmed."

Seconded by Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar.

Carried.

Mr. Subba Aiyar then moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. Kunjan Pillai, Raman Tampi, G. Parameswaran Pillai and Narayanan Pandalay and the Mover to report within two months.

Seconded by Mr. Nidiry.

Carried.

THE ESTATES' RENT RECOVERY REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"Sir,

I beg to introduce a Bill to amend the Estates' Rent Recovery Regulation, IV of 1068. Under this Regulation, the Estates mentioned therein, *viz.*, the Edapalli and Kilimanur Estates, are given the privilege of having their rent recovered under the Revenue Recovery Regulation. If the rent roll and other accounts are kept in the form in which Government accounts are kept and if any default in the payment of revenue is made by a tenant, the Estates report the matter to Government Revenue officers and action is taken under the Revenue Recovery Regulation. Sometimes, it so happens that in giving the names of the defaulters or other particulars required under the rules, the Estates make mistakes, with the result that recovery is made in cases where there is no default. The Government are in consequence put to loss by way of defending suits which are filed against them, and sometimes, refunding the amount recovered. Section 7 of the Regulation enacts that, if in connection with any proceedings taken under Section 6, Government have to incur charges and losses, such charges and losses should be paid by the Estates. But the Section does not say how they have to be recovered. The result is that, if there is a default in making good the expenses incurred by Government, the Government should necessarily have recourse to a suit. The charges and losses are incurred in proceedings taken for and on behalf of the Estates. It is not desirable that such charges should be recovered by a separate suit. The amendment now suggested is to the effect that the Government may recover such charges and losses from the Estates summarily as if they are arrears of land revenue without being driven to a Civil suit for the purpose. With these words, I beg to move that the principle of the Bill be affirmed."

President:—"I believe that the provision in the Bill is meant to cover also the cost incurred by Government in respect of proceedings taken by them for the recovery of those rents. The Government depute their Establishment to recover those rents and they must be in a position to recover the costs of such Establishment. Perhaps the amendment will enable the Government to do so."

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Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"Whatever be the expenditure it will be realised from the Estates."

Seconded by Mr. Rajaram Row.

Carried.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"The Bill is a short one, and I do not think that it is desirable to send it to a Select Committee for consideration. Rule 33 says that the Council may decide whether it is desirable to send a Bill to the Select Committee."

President:—"I do not think that it is necessary to send this Bill to a Select Committee for consideration. There is nothing for a Select Committee to consider beyond what has been considered just now."

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"I beg to move that the Bill be not referred to a Select Committee."

Seconded by Mr. Rajaraja Varma.

Carried.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"Under Rule 45, the Bill cannot be considered to-day. I therefore beg to move that the Bill be considered on a future day of which notice shall be given."

Seconded by Mr. Rajaraja Varma.

Carried.

THE CENSUS BILL.

Mr. Subba Aiyar:—

"I beg to move that the Census Bill be finally read and passed."

Seconded by Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar.

Carried.

President:—

"Gentlemen,

I believe that the Council would expect from me some closing observations by way of reply to the speeches made by the Non-Official Members with reference to the Budget discussion that has taken place to-day. For that purpose, it seems to me that we may meet to-morrow at 3 P. M."

The Council adjourned at 4-55 P. M. and met again the next day at 3 P. M. All the Members that attended the previous day, except Mr. Rangaswami Aiyangar, were present. The President then spoke as follows:—

"GENTLEMEN,

I thank you very sincerely for the very kind and hearty welcome you have extended to me. I take it as the earnest of a genuine non-official co-operation with me in my arduous task of administering the State, and let me assure you that I would need that co-operation in ample measure if anything like success is to attend my efforts. I fully realise the difficulties of administering a State in these days of great world changes and rapidly increasing political consciousness among the people and specially a State so full of promise and intellect and progressive ideas like Travancore. Your co-operation will lighten my task considerably and I deem myself fortunate in obtaining from you an assurance in regard to it. I may add that I am also fortunate in having come to serve a Ruler who is so well known for his wisdom and insight and his solicitude for the welfare of his subjects. I feel that under the guidance of such a wise Ruler and with your kind co-operation, I can achieve something before I lay down the reins of my office. Permit me to congratulate you on the very high level of your Budget discussion and the insight into administrative problems which it discloses. There is hardly a subject of importance on which you have not touched and you have given me ample food for thought.

I do not propose to traverse the ground already covered by my opening speech and the answers to interpellations; nor do I propose to reply to your remarks *in extenso*. Your discussion has been so comprehensive and so minute that I think you will agree with me when I say that it is impossible for me to attempt a detailed reply to it, with my present limited experience of the administration of the State. I would therefore confine myself to what I consider are the most important points raised in your discussion.

Many of you have referred to the desirability of having a Budget Committee composed of officials and non-officials for the preparation of the Budget. Government recognise the importance of this suggestion and it will be carefully considered. Govern-

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